MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know from the member whether, since the introduction of the reduced fares, there is any appreciable increase in the passenger traffic by the railway?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): By the reduction in the fare, the passenger traffic between Trivandrum and Quilon has almost doubled. Information regarding Quilon to Punalur is not available.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know whether Government considered the effect of discouraging motor traffic?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): No.

Staff of the Travancore Section of the S. I. R.

127. ***MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of employees in different grades of service in the Travancore Section of the S. I. R. and the number of Travancoreans employed at present in each of those grades;

(*b*) whether the S. I. R. authorities are giving any preferential claim to applicants from Travancore; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, whether the question has been placed before the S. I. R. by the Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government consider that no useful purpose will be served by calling for the information as the staff appointed to the Travancore Section is generally transferred to other Sections and *vice versa*.

(*b*) The Company have stated that Travancoreans receive full consideration along with others.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to (*b*).

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): My question is whether any preferential treatment is meted out to Travancoreans. I wish to know whether any preference is given to the Travancoreans.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is that no special preference is shown to Travancoreans; but their applications are considered along with those of others.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether the Travancore Government have addressed the Railway Company suggesting that preference should be given to Travancoreans at least in the Travancore line?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): As early as in 1922 the Government wrote to the Railway Company regarding the employment of Travancoreans in the South Indian Railway and they wrote back to say that the applications from Travancoreans would of course receive due consideration. That is all that has been done and that could be done.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether the Travancore member on the Railway Advisory Board has any voice in bringing this matter to the attention of the South Indian Railway?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes. I think he could suggest it to the Advisory Board; and if the South Indian Railway Company think it proper to adopt the suggestion, they will do so.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Is there any term in the contract between the Travancore Government and the Railway Company or the Secretary of State regarding the entertainment of Travancoreans in the railway service?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is no such thing, Sir.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : Will the Government be prepared to take some interest in that?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : They have already taken interest in it and they are prepared to take more interest if necessary.

Clerical staff in the office of the Director of Registration.

128. ✻**MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*) : Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list of persons appointed as permanent clerks in the office of the Director of Registration from 1-8-1108 to 1109 (8-9-1109) with the dates of their first appointment in the Department and the period of acting service?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The list* is placed on the table.

Schools at Kadiyapattanam and Manavalakurichi.

129. ✻**MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam II*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of schools, both English and Vernacular, in the Kadiyapattanam and Manavalakurichi *pakuthies* and

(*b*) the number of Government schools in the two above-said *pakuthies*?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) :

(*a*) English Schools ... Nil.
Vernacular Schools ... 11

(*b*) One.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam II* : May I know whether there is scope for more schools in those *pakuthies*?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) : Yes, I think there is.

Public works in the Kalkulam taluk.

130. ✻**MR. K. R. ELENKATH** (*Kalkulam I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state the amount spent by the P. W. D. in the Kalkulam taluk on the following heads in 1108 and during the first ten months of 1109 :

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* *Vide* Appendix I.

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